

REMARKS

Claim 52 is currently pending in the application, and is in independent form. The claim has been added to more specifically recite the claimed invention. Support for the amendment to the claims can be found in the specification as originally filed. Specifically, the specification as filed discloses in paragraphs [0064] – [0067] the documentation method of the present invention.

Applicant wishes to express his appreciation for the courtesies extended Applicant's representative, Dr. Kenneth I. Kohn, during a telephonic interview conducted on June 10, 2007. During the interview the prior art cited in the previous Office Action was discussed as well as the general state of the art. As discussed, the method as recited in the presently pending claim is directed to the quality of information provided by the physician. In other words, the method elicits both additional information and additional documentation as support for a diagnosis. With this improved information, the hospital's clinical quality and safety ratings will be enhanced, a more appropriate evaluation of resources usage will be determined and the hospital will be reimbursed by payors at the most appropriate level.

The method accomplishes this result by requesting predetermined information based upon the existence of specific criteria. There are thousands of coding rules and some are dependent on specific information or verbiage that the clinician uses to document the patient's condition and the clinician's observations and conclusions. The presently pending claim recites a method that enables the user to better define the patient encounter by eliciting further details from the user based upon the information entered by the user. This additional documentation is directed towards supporting DRG (Diagnosis Related Group) assignment – a purpose and functionality far beyond the scope of the prior art cited in the Office Action.

As cited, the presently pending claim reflects the clinician documentation method for use with an electronic processing device described in the specification in paragraphs [0064] through [0067].

In conclusion, it is respectfully submitted that the presently pending claim is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests to be contacted by telephone at (248) 539-5050 if any remaining issues exist.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

KOHN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC



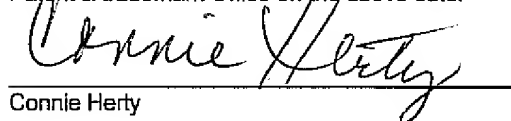
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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING VIA EFS-WEB

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with the United States Patent & trademark Office on the above date.



Connie Herty